

Fact Sheet

U.S. Department of Energy

Washington, DC

April 2005

International Partnership for the Hydrogen Economy

Purpose of Initiative

The International Partnership for the Hydrogen Economy (IPHE) provides a mechanism to coordinate multinational research, development and deployment programs that advance the transition to a global hydrogen economy. The IPHE leverages limited resources; reviews the progress of collaborative projects; identifies promising directions for research, development, demonstration, and commercial use; provides technical assessments for policy decisions; prioritizes, identifies gaps, and develops common recommendations for international codes, standards and safety protocols; and maintains communications with the private sector and other stakeholders to foster public-private collaboration that addresses the technological, financial and institutional barriers to a cost-competitive, standardized, widely accessible, safe and environmentally benign hydrogen economy.

Official Partners

Governments: Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, Iceland, India, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Republic of Korea, Russia, United Kingdom, the United States of America, and the European Commission.

Other Participants

International Organizations: Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperative, International Energy Agency, USAID, Arctic Council, and the Association of South East Asian Nations.

Civil Society: Members of the hydrogen economy stakeholder community are involved with the IPHE and are encouraged to participate and interact with the IPHE.

Partnership Goals

The IPHE will be successful when the following factors characterize the world's transportation sector:

- Hydrogen-powered vehicles are competitive with conventional vehicles.
- The price and availability of hydrogen are competitive with conventional fuels.
- Hydrogen fuel is conveniently available to hydrogen vehicle drivers, based on improved fueling and storage infrastructure.

- Hydrogen energy storage technologies will allow personal transportation systems to operate at the same levels of safety, performance and range as today's gasoline powered vehicles.
- An internationally consistent system of safety codes and standards related to hydrogen utilization is developed and adopted.

Progress Toward Goals

The inaugural IPHE Ministerial meeting was held November 19-21, 2003 in Washington DC, USA. A Terms of Reference was signed by the 16 IPHE partners and the initial meetings of the two IPHE Committees (Steering Committee and Implementation-Liaison Committee) were held. Since the Ministerial meeting, the Partnership has realized many accomplishments:

- Established:
 - An active IPHE Secretariat, the principle coordinator of IPHE communications and activities;
 - An IPHE Evaluation Team to review proposed collaborative efforts;
 - A process for Stakeholder Involvement that allows both the public and private sectors to work in partnership toward advancing the hydrogen economy.
 - A process for developing an IPHE roadmap.
- Developed:
 - A set of working principles on guiding the identification of IPHE-labeled collaborative projects and events;
 - Scoping Papers that summarize the current state of technology, identify technical barriers to commercial deployment, and further prioritize concrete projects, events and actions to be undertaken by IPHE Partners that will advance technology development and deployment;
 - A set of outreach materials to disseminate information and increase awareness on the objectives of IPHE and the benefits to a hydrogen economy;
 - A series of international workshops to identify specific collaborative opportunities to advance the hydrogen economy. These workshops will focus on: Fuel Cells; Hydrogen Production; Hydrogen Storage; Regulations, Codes and Standards; Socioeconomics of Hydrogen; and Hydrogen Education.

Website

<http://www.iphe.net>